

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/810,454	BECK, DAVID A.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Eric Hug	1731	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed August 7, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9,12-33,35 and 37-56.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date <u>05/26/06</u></li> <li>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br/>of Biological Material</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application</li> <li>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br/>Paper No./Mail Date _____.</li> <li>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment</li> <li>8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> <li>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.</li> </ol> |
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### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. The application has been amended as follows:

On page 1, after the Title---

#### Cross Reference to Related Applications

This is a continuation of PCT application No. PCT/EP02/10771, entitled "An anti-rewet felt for use in a papermaking machine", filed September 25, 2002, which ~~claims priority to~~ is a continuation of U.S. Application 09/964,720, now U.S. Patent 6,616,812, filed ~~Filed~~ on September 27, 2001.

#### *Allowable Subject Matter*

Claims 1-9, 12-33, 35, and 37-56 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 27-33, 35, and 37-44 are allowed, because the prior art does not disclose or suggest an anti-rewet fabric comprising at least one air distribution layer with a plain weave or multi-float weave and at least one perforated film layer or spectra membrane laminated or attached thereto, wherein with respect to a perforated film layer, the weave repeat distance of the air distribution layer is equal to or greater than the distance of the closest spaced holes of the perforated film layer.

Claims 45-51 are allowed, because the prior art does not disclose or suggest clothing for a press unit comprising at least one anti-rewet fabric, which includes at least one air distribution fabric layer and at least one perforated film layer or spectra membrane attached thereto, and at least one additional fabric.

Claims 1-9 and 12-26 are allowed, because the prior art does not disclose or suggest a press comprising two press elements which includes an enclosure containing pressurized fluid, at least one anti-rewet fabric which includes at least one air distribution fabric layer and at least one perforated film layer or spectra membrane attached thereto, and an additional fabric having a permeability equal to or less than that of the anti-rewet fabric.

Claim 52 is allowed, because the prior art does not disclose or suggest a method of conveying a fiber web into an air press which includes the step of providing two press elements which includes an enclosure containing pressurized fluid, providing an anti-rewet fabric which includes at least one air distribution fabric layer and at least one perforated film layer or spectra membrane attached thereto, and providing at least one additional fabric.

Claim 53 is allowed, because the prior art does not disclose or suggest a papermachine comprising at least the press unit of claim 1.

Claims 54-56 are allowed, because the prior art does not disclose or suggest a method of dewatering a fiber web including the steps of providing an air press with an air pressure chamber, providing an anti-rewet fabric, providing a second fabric having a permeability equal to or less than that of the anti-rewet fabric, and carrying the fiber web between the two fabrics through the nip with the second fabric between the web and the air pressure chamber.

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments filed August 7, 2006 have been considered.

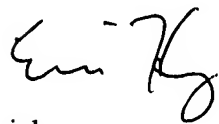
The arguments and amendments to the claims have overcome the rejections set forth previously under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Hansen (US 6,723,208) with or without Jeffrey (WO 98/56982).

Art Unit: 1731

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric Hug whose telephone number is 571 272-1192. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Griffin can be reached on 571 272-1189. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



jeh